Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62.87

GARDENSIDE GOSSIP

VOLUME 4 JULY 1, 1939 NUMBER 3

JUL 5 1939
U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A PUBLICATION OF
GARDENSIDE NURSERIES, INC.
SHELBURNE, VERMONT

IN FLANDERS' FIELDS

THE POPPIES GROW.

When the Poppies in Flanders' fields were the flowers of greatest interest to everyone, there was no time for gardening.

But when that war was over, almost the first reaction was the need for beauty to replace that horror which had been in every life. And in that spring of 1919, twenty years ago, when we returned to nursery work, we learned a lesson and achieved a faith, that has kept us true to the work we had chosen, thruout the years that followed.

Flowers are a need in every life. To returning soldiers and to families that had been rationed for food during the war years alike, came the urge to buy plants that spring and to enjoy the beauty of which they had been deprived, even at the expense of some material comforts. And it is still true. Flowers are needed to relieve worried minds and to take us away from everyday troubles. Else why do we go home at night from a day in the nursery, and work in our own little garden?

Have you a garden where Poppies grow, to go to when you need a change? You must think about it now, to enjoy it next year.

MERTENSIA VIRGINICA.

VIRGINIA COWSLIP.

Each spring reaffirms the beauty of the Mertensia, while nursery visitors again and again affirm its position as the finest of American wild-flowers. It isn't the very first plant to blossom in the spring, but it begins to open just when one can really get into and enjoy the garden.

To be seen at its best, it should be planted during the summer months, from July to September. It then becomes fully established, and, like the Tulips, gives the full measure of its beauty the following spring. There seems no place where it will not grow well, save in the wettest or dryest soils. Probably it prefers spring moisture and summer dryness. A little shade may intensify its colors, but is not necessary for growth. It is at home in the open border, and under shrubs or trees.

For July and August only, we offer an especial bargain in this plant. Strong nursery grown plants while they last at only 15¢ each; 10 for $1.25. POSTPAID

Smaller plants, that will surely flower well are offered in quantities of not less than ten for $1.00; 25 or more for 8¢ each; 1000 for $75.00. POSTPAID.

On Sunday, June 11, the Gossip was well under way. The Poppies were opening; thousands of Lilies were showing promising growth; Peony buds were expanding. Cultivation and weeding were well under way. In less than an hour late that afternoon, a terrific hail, wind, and rain storm broke down and pounded into the mud all promise of flowers for weeks to come. Hundreds of panes of glass were broken. There are no Poppies, no Lilies, perhaps no Hemerocallis. But the plants are here, as fine as ever.

ORIENTAL POPPIES.

All Poppies are priced at 25¢ each;5 for $1.00;10 for $2.00;100 for $18.00,except as noted. These prices include delivery. Not less than five plants,all of the same variety, will be sold at the quantity rate

---

AUSTRALIA: Ox-blood red,on tall stiff stems.Massive flower.50¢

BEAUTY OF LIVERMERE: Deep ox-blood red,close to maroon.An old variety of easy culture,permanent and free flowering.

CAVALIER: Very erect,and quite tall,with extremely large blooms of a shade close to that of Lulu Neeley,but brighter. It is a distinctly worthwhile sort of good free growth.

CERISE BEAUTY: This is a brilliant cerise pink,a different color,and is not duplicated by any sort we have.Large and strong growing,it always does well.

DELICATA:Old-rose pink,or when fully open,almost a lavender. In partial shade it might be a bit brighter in color.

E.A.BOWLES: A very delicate and charming shade of soft shell-pink,with well crinkled petals.Choice,and easily grown.

FAIRY: A replica of E.A.Bowles,save that it flowers earlier, and is slightly smaller and lower.

FLANDERS FIELDS: Almost,if not quite as deep in color as Lulu A.Neeley,but it has a sheen,or brighter cast,that makes it glow.Very much a favorite,here.

GLOWING EMBERS: There is nothing like this Poppy in its color. It is a deep brick-red,with a touch of orange,not bright,and reminding one of some of the Amaryllis colors.The flowers are of heavy texture and much crinkled.

GOLD OF OPHIR:The orange-yellow Poppy.It must stand in one spot until its second flowering,to show its true coloring, but it is showy enough at all times,to make the wait worthwhile.

HENRI CAYEUX: Old-rose,shading into burgundy.An odd shade that scarcely seems to belong in the Poppy family.In partial shade its coloring is brighter,and it may be cut and opened in the house to get the same effect. 50¢ each.

JEANNE MAWSON: Lovely peach-pink.Like Cerise Beauty,it is different,not just another pink.A vigorous and large flowered sort,of easy culture.

JOYCE:A trifle brighter than Jeanne,and extra good.Sturdy erect stems,the flowers cerise and old-rose.

JULIA BUCK: Large full flowers of deep coral-pink on strong rigid stems.

LIGHTNESS: This variety grows only about two feet tall,with us.The flowers are smaller than many others and heavily ruffled,and are produced in great numbers,far more freely than from any other sort.In color,just a bit brighter than E.A.Bowles.

LULU A.NEELEY: The best dark red Poppy,with that satisfying color,both for eye and senses,possessed by a bright red apple. Erect,of good size,the flowers last well on the plant,and the plant is thrifty and sure to grow.

MAGNIFICUS: This has flowered and we think it lives up to a printed description,-deep old-rose;lovely. $1.00 each.

MAY QUEEN: Double,early flowering,bright orange tinged scarlet A satisfying sort,showy and permanent.

AGAIN,-POPPIES.

Sometimes it seems that the Gossip,as so many other things of like nature, descends into a rut.July invariably brings Poppies to the fore.But in spite of the fact that we wrote columns of descriptive and other words about the Poppies,last year and before that,somehow there are still things to say about them.

To begin with,only one sort is flowering as this is written.The double May Queen is in bloom,weeks before the others. Once established this variety has weedy tendencies,but it is a rich splash of color in the nursery just at present, with the Trollius nearly over,and the Peonies not yet in.We can see no wrong in it,save that it keeps us hoeing.All the other kinds have only buds to show,and some not even that.The light pink E.A. Bowles and quite similar Fairy will be about the first to come now.

It used to be that Peonies were the chief source of complaint that we had to encounter after each flowering season, for mixtures would creep in,and too,no two people quite agreed as to just what color 'hydrangea-pink'(used commonly to name a certain shade in Peonies),really is.Now this is true of Poppies.Mixtures will happen,and colors are not the same to all eyes,while undoubtedly soils and locations have something to do with color.

This last year,we established a small bed,in which was set on three foot centers one each of every Poppy we had.All but one or two are alive and will flower.Here we shall have an opportunity to check again the trueness to name and the blooming dates of our varieties.In the field,where so many flower together,some are far apart from others.In this little bed,they are all in some 200 square feet.And comparisons here will have no quantity overload to detract from critical appraisal.

We hope to check the colors more closely both as they relate to each other,and with accepted color charts.We want to see how truly yellow Gold of Ophir really is, when established,and whether other sorts will be better on well established plants. Poppies and Peonies differ in that the latter doesn't always flower the first year,and must be kept until it reaches a good flowering size.The Poppy becomes salable in one season,and is not left to reach mature size.

Now we know that up to last summer,no serious mixture had occurred in our Poppy fields.It is always possible,since one wrong plant will result in a goodly number of plants the next year,enough to spoil an entire bed.We have been careful to check them each year,and to propagate,so far as possible from flowering plants.So that complaints that reach us,to be justified,must be based on a very few things.

AGAIN,-POPPIES,con.

First,-Poppy Perry's White.We are absolutely sure that this sort will revert to Mrs.Perry.We have set a bed of them, taken from one plant only,that had been carefully selected when in bloom,and was surely white,and have had both white and pink flowers from the one plant,the next year.If you received pink for white,let us know,and we'll try again.

Second,-We have May Queen mixed with Mrs.Stobart,and again the most careful labelling and checking at digging time has failed to completely eradicate it.The roots are different,as are the leaves.But the mixture persists.We have a grudge against the Queen for that,for Mrs.Stobart is quite one of our nicest sorts.

Third,-Who knows exactly what old-rose may mean in your eyes,or in ours.We use the descriptions sent us with new sorts, and check them with our own observations. If they seem correct,we do not change.If they fail to please you as the color you expected,well,after all,wasn't it a beautiful bloom?

Fourth,-The chance that we have not the true sort,and are without means of confirming the correctness of the stock.If we buy one or two plants of a new sort,from the introducer,or a reputable source,and grow perhaps even one hundred plants from them we still have no way of being sure that the hundred,tho identical with the originals,are true.In this case,we can only say that we are continually seeing sorts in other places,meeting nurserymen, and customers,who have seen other stocks, and doing our utmost to prevent any intentional misrepresentation.

Now if all this sounds as if we were trying to cover some dark and dreadful secret,let us repeat that the only mixtures of which we know,are one and two above.And that,except for some ten new sorts,obtained last year,and not yet flowered,we believe every sort we have to be correctly named. And we had about 10,000 plants in the beds last year,fully half of each lot in flower.

Oriental Poppies,in the new shades, offer a sure-fire color sensation in any June garden.Give them a deep soil,and good drainage.Plant them in July and August,and cover the tops lightly with brush or excelsior,but never with leaves,the first winter.Almost any sort we offer will delight you next year.

Plants offered in the Gossip are priced at 25¢ each;10 for $2.00;100 for $18.00,unless noted otherwise.The price includes delivery to you by the method we consider best,except at West of the Mississippi River we require an additional 5% to cover extra postage and packing cost. Please be sure that in claiming the quantity price,you select five or more identical plants,-not just five Poppies,but five of one variety.

ORIENTAL POPPIES.

MRS.PERRY: Lovely salmon pink.An old standard sort that will always grow and flower.One of the best in every way.

NEGRILLON: Bordeaux and lavender, an odd combination that needs shade to develop perfectly.50¢ each.

PERRY'S WHITE:In spite of its somewhat wayward habits,we have found no white so far that excels this.It is a good color, and the plant is more permanent and hardy than other white sorts. 35¢ each;10 for $3.00.

PRINCESS ENA: Much like Mrs.Perry in color,but in form it is less cup-shaped and more tulip like.

PROSERPINE: Chinese red,with a very dark center.A late tall variety that is vigorous and free flowering.

ROSE BEAUTY: The few flowers we have seen on this new sort, appealed to us very much.Officially it is,-clear,gleaming, rose-pink. Petals crinkled and white edged. $1.00 each.

SILVER BLICK: Salmon pink,with delicate base markings.In our opinion,this taller and larger Mrs.Perry far surpasses its parent,and visitors concur.

SPOTLESS: Pure soft pink,a trifle lighter than Silver Blick and Mrs.Perry,but deeper than E.A.Bowles.Not quite so tall, perhaps,but it grows readily and flowers profusely.

TANGEE: Clear pure orange,tall,very large,and well formed. Last year,$4.00,we have a fine lot in prospect and are making the price this year $1.00 each.We predict they won't last long.

WATTEAU.Pure coral pink,low,and profusely flowering.This sort has an appeal,hard to describe.

WELCOME: Not as glistening as Flanders Fields.The same deep red,slightly lighter than Lulu A.Neeley,but lacking the sheen. The petals are shaggy,and there is a deep central blotch. 35¢

WUNDERKIND: Large flowers of brilliant carmine-rose.We have had this famous variety for several years but failed to make it grow as it should.The orders received at the nursery,took all the surplus.So far,indications are for a fine lot of plants but best order promptly. $1.00 each.

WURTEMBERGIA: Enormous cerise scarlet flowers,opening out as flat as a plate. A flower show in itself. 35¢ each.

PAPAVER ALPINUM.

Two years ago,we received a few plants of the Alpine Poppy. Because of the improvement in Papaver nudicaule,we have lost interest in them,for while the color is better,the ungainly and excessively long stems to the flowers,do not please us. Then too,they are not permanent,tho they seed freely.The Alpine Poppy has none of these faults,in our eyes.They are permanent here;the stems are but six or eight inches tall; the flowers in pale shades,and of silky texture.And the foliage is enticing,pale glaucus green,crinkled much like Parsley. The plant is a little gem,and the flowers appear all summer. We have some fine field grown plants to send out at any time, and offer them at 25¢ each,postpaid,or ten or more for 15¢ each.One plant is a gem,but ten,scattered thru a rockery,are a summer's delight.

OUR LIST OF PEONIES

ALBATRE: White, with a red tipped center. Also called Avalanche. Midseason. Best white at the price. 35¢ each.

ALBERT CROUSSE: A very late, sea-shell pink flower of perfect shape. 50¢ each.

CHESTINE GOWDY: Silvery pink, growing deeper at the center. 50¢ each.

CLAIRE DUBOIS: A later M. Jules Elie, with a wonderful silvery sheen. 50¢ each.

DORCHESTER: The latest Peony. A fine deep pink, almost salmon. 50¢ each.

EDULIS SUPERBA: Good rose pink. Large and very early. 35¢.

EUGENIE VERDIER: An early, extra large pink. A fine bloom that lasts well. 35¢ each.

FELIX CROUSSE: The best midseason red, and when well grown it is quite the finest red. 35¢ each.

FESTIVA MAXIMA: The old favorite white, with pink tipped center. Unexcelled for massing or cutting. 35¢ each.

FRANCES WILLARD: An immense flower. Blush white, fading to pure white. 75¢ each.

GEORGIANNA SHAYLOR:: Extremely large flesh pink flower. 50¢.

JAMES KELWAY: Rose-white, changing to milk-white, and finally fading to pure white. 75¢ each.

KARL ROSENFIELD: Fine rich velvety crimson. Midseason. A choice red sort, that lasts well in true color. 50¢ each.

LADY ALEXANDRA DUFF: An immense cup-shaped, pale pink bloom. 50¢ each.

LE CYGNE: Not only the finest white, but considered the world's finest Peony. Very large and distinct. $1.50 each.

LIVINGSTONE: Pale lilac-rose, with silver tips. A compact very double bloom. 35¢ each.

LONGFELLOW: Brilliant crimson. Just about the brightest colored sort we grow. 75¢ each.

MARGUERITE GERARD: Enormous flat pale pink flowers, fading to white. 35¢ each.

MARIE CROUSSE: Pale lilac-rose. A mid-season, bomb type flower of great beauty. 35¢ each.

MARIE LEMOINE: The latest white, an extra large double bloom. A very fine sort that should be in every collection. 50¢ each.

MARTHA BULLOCK: A very large perfectly flat flower, of deep rose pink, fading to silvery pink. Fragrant as a June rose. $1.00 each.

MME. AUGUST DESSERT: Bright rose, the center flecked crimson. 35¢ each.

MME. DUCEL: Large, incurved, silvery pink bloom. Midseason. 35¢ each.

MME. EMILE GALLE: A rounded sea shell pink flower like a great double apple blossom. Ethereally beautiful. 50¢ each.

MME. JULES DESSERT: Pure white, with distinct pink center. 75¢ each.

OFFICINALIS RUBRA: The well known, deep red Peony, that often opens for Decoration Day. 50¢ each.

THE VIRGINIA COWSLIP.

Mertensia virginica, the so-called Virginia Cowslip, is a woodland plant found plentifully thruout the eastern part of the United States, about as far north as central New York, and westward to Tennessee. It is not listed as ever having been native to Vermont, but it is perfectly hardy here and farther north, so that one is led to wonder at its more southern home.

Like many another plant of open woodland, it makes its growth early while there is little shade and then as the tree leaves grow, and the woodland becomes dry, it retreats into its black fleshy root to lie absolutely dormant until another spring. But it starts into growth with the very first warm spring days, and here it begins to show its pink flowers when only about six inches high in late April, or early May. It continues to open the pendant pink bells as the stem grows, and as they fade to clear pale blue, the stem reaches a full height of about two feet, slightly arching and clothed in large, luxurious looking pale green foliage. By July, it has entirely gone.

Apparently tolerant of almost any crowding in the garden, it has a place among the midsummer and fall flowering plants, where it supplies color before they start into growth. Under shrubs, it is a thing of beauty before even they are fully clothed with leaves, and as they spread and cover the ground, it disappears so that one may safely run the mower over the bed or even the scuffle-hoe. It has no pests of which we are aware, and no diseases. Too wet a location in winter may rot the roots, but even this condition must be quite extreme to be dangerous. Once established, it increases in size gradually making a fine clump, and in happy locations seedlings will come up about the plant.

In its native haunts, it grows in unbelievable numbers, one authority saying that he has seen literally acres of open woodland, blue and pink with this plant, as far as the eye could reach. No one familiar with it, and able to visualize such a sea of blue can fail to literally catch breath at such a thought.

Entirely distinct, but of similar growth habits, the bulbous Corydalis flowers even earlier. Looking much like a pink-purple Dutchman's breeches, and with foliage like that of the Plumy Bleeding Heart, it too is fine for under shrub planting, for the Rockery, or even for the edge of the border. It is happiest in light soils, we find. Don't forget the little native relatives, the Squirrel Corn and Dutchman's Breeches. Both should be planted in July, too.

SOME HINTS FOR BONAFIDE GARDENERS.

Midsummer is a trying time for the gardener and the nurseryman as well.The gardener wants to be doing something,and the plantsman strongly wishes him to,in order that the dull period may be less dull.But what to do,or what to suggest,is a real problem.

Of course,the spring flowering bulbs are not at hand,but there is another group to be planted now,-that must be planted now,if flowers are to be had.They are mostly the fall flowering sorts,as the Colchicums;Lycoris;Fall Crocus,and others mentioned in these pages.And the Camassias are bulbs that mature in mid-summer,and are best for an early planting so that they may get firmly established before winter.We have had excellent results with these here,and they are flowering now,in mid-June before the other blues come,and are much appreciated.The Madonna Lily is another bulb,better for early planting, particularly in the northern part of the country.

None of these give the bonafide gardener much trouble,since in the main they are planted when dormant,and tho it takes some nerve to completely bury a plant in the ground when all the growth about it is lush and green,still it can be done.In the fall,somehow it doesn't seem wrong to bury plants away for spring,but summer planting is different.

There are another group of plants which should be set in summer or at least in early fall,to give the gardener the results which he is entitled to anticipate.We refer to the very early spring flowering things, which we here cannot hope to deliver to more southern points in time for them to bloom their best,if you wait until spring. All of them,if planted during the summer, or early enough to become truly established before winter,will be much better next spring.

Take Phlox subulata for instance.We have a goodly number of sorts,in varied colors. Recently,we have had a rare mass of color from them,and large numbers of plants went out in visiting cars.As soon as they are thru flowering,no one gives them a second glance.And those plants that were dug in bloom,were surely checked,faded quickly, and now some purchasers may be wondering why they succumbed to the riot of color. The consolation lies in the show they will have next year,- a show you may have if you will buy these things during the time when they may best be lifted,divided,reset to make new compact growth,and be ready to provide a show,with the warm spring days.

Trollius is that way too.It shows its flower buds among the first leaves,and opens them at three and four inches high,keeping on until the stem is two feet tall.If that stem is checked,-and it is by digging- can you hope for the same beauty next spring,as if you planted them now?

PEONIES -- Cont'd.

SARAH BERNHARDT: Apple-blossom pink. It excels all others in its color. Fine on light soil. 35¢ each.

SOLANGE: White shaded brown. A perfectly formed bloom, of great size. No other Peony like it. 75¢ each.

SUZETTE: Bengal rose, slightly shaded carmine-purple, and with a silvery reflex. 50¢ each.

THERESE: Rich violet-rose. An enormous, finely formed flower. $1.00 each.

TOURANGELLE: Delicate rose, over pearly white, shaded with salmon. One of the best of the later sorts. 75¢ each.

VENUS: Pale hydrangea-pink, with a lighter collar. 35¢ each.

WALTER FAXON: Bright rose. A distinct, delicately colored bloom, of high quality and good size. 75¢ each.

PEONIES WILL BE SENT OUT IN SEPTEMBER, UNLESS REQUESTED EARLIER. ALL PLANTS ARE ONE YEAR OLD FROM DIVISION. PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY IF THE VALUE OF THE TOTAL ORDER IS $1.00.

TREE PEONIES.

The following list of Tree Peonies comprises the offering of a firm specializing in their culture. Each plant is two years old, and pot grown in 5" pots. They may be had at any time, and transplant with perfect safety. Time should be allowed us to obtain the plants, however. Prices are per single plant, and include delivery.

ARCHIDUC LUDOVICO: Double flesh pink. $4.00 each.

ATHLETE: Double glazed mauve, shaded rose. $4.00 each.

BARONNE D'ALES: Vivid salmon pink. Double. $4.00 each.

COLONEL MALCOLM: Light purple and violet. $4.00 each.

FRAGRANS MAXIMA PLENA: Double salmon-flesh pink. $4.00 each.

GEORGES PAUL: Amaranth and violet. $4.00 each.

JULES PIRLOT: Satiny pink. $4.00 each.

LACTEA: Pure white, blotched carmine. $4.00 each.

LA LORRAINE: Sulfur yellow, with salmon tinge. $12.00 each.

MME. DE VATRY: Satiny pink, shaded lilac. $4.00 each.

REINE ELIZABETH: Vivid Salmon rose. $4.00 each.

REINE DES VIOLETTES: Fine dark purple. $4.00 each.

SATIN ROUGE: Bright blood red. $15.00 each.

SOUVENIR DE DUCHER: Bright reddish violet. $4.00 each.

SOUVENIR DE MAXIME CORNU: Deep yellow, heavily shaded orange. Fragrant. A wonderful double bloom. $10.00 each.

TRIUMPH DE VANDERMAELEN: Clear rosy purple. $4.00 each.

REMEMBER - Tree Peonies, under good conditions, grow to large size. Plant them at least four feet apart.

BULBOUS PLANTS,FOR IMMEDIATE PLANTING.

ANEMONELLA THALICTROIDES: The Rue Anemone grows in damp woodland,in partial shade.Very charming,with its 9 inch stem, crowned with leaves,from which peep the white flowers. 15¢.

ARISAEMA DRACONTIUM: The Green Dragon is an odd form of the Jack in the Pulpit.The spathe is long,sometimes six inches or more and pale green.Culture is like that of the Jack,-part shade,especially against afternoon sun.25¢ each.
ARISAEMA TRIPHYLLUM: Jack in the Pulpit,or Indian Turnip.A well known woodland plant,fine for the wild garden,or in shade under trees. 25¢ each;10 for $1.50.

CAMASSIA LEICHTLINI,BLUE: This Camass grows to 4 feet tall,in good soil,and is very showy.Pale lavender to dark blue.
CAMASSIA LEICHTLINI,WHITE AND CREAM: Lighter shades of the preceding,of equally strong growth.
CAMASSIA QUAMASH: The western form of C.esculenta,from which it differs in stronger growth and deeper colored flowers.It is deeper colored than the preceding sorts,but not as tall.
ALL CAMASSIAS ARE,3 for 35¢;10 for $1.25;25 for $2.50.

CLAYTONIA VIRGINICA: A tiny flat bulb of deciduous woodland, sending out in spring a trailing stem bearing several pink veined white flowers.A leafy slope may have thousands of them, but try to find them in July. 15¢ each.

COLCHICUM AUTUMNALE: Fall flowering European bulb,much like very large Crocus.This has lavender blue cups,in October.
COLCHICUM AUTUMNALE ALBUM: The white flowered form.
COLCHICUM AUTUMNALE MAJOR: Rosy purple flowers,very large.
COLCHICUM SPECIOSUM: Rose purple,large and fine.
ALL COLCHICUM ARE PRICED,-35¢ each; 3 for $1.00.

CORYDALIS BULBUSA: Bulbous Corydalis,flowering in earliest spring,with flowers like pink Dutchman's Breeches.15¢ each.
CORYDALIS NOBILIS: The Noble Fumitory would be about the best translation of this name.The plant comes from Siberia,with heavy roots,from which appear leaves and flowers in early May,the stems to a foot of height.Flowers are yellow,with a black dot.Very uncommon,but we have quite a few plants.50¢.

CROCUS SATIVUS: Large lilac flowers,with a showy orange center in September and October,appearing over a long period.
CROCUS SPECIOSUS: Large bright blue flowers,dep orange anthers.
CROCUS ZONATUS: Rose lilac,with yellow throat.
ALL FALL CROCUS ARE,-5 for 35¢;10 for 65¢;25 for $1.25;100-$12.

DICENTRA CANADENSIS: The little Squirrel Corn grows along ledges,or large boulders,in cool woods-soil,flowers in May,and disappears.Equally easy in shaded garden soil.
DICENTRA CUCULLARIA: Dutchman's Breeches,beloved of childhood. Grows everywhere with the Squirrel Corn,and sometimes carpets stony banks under hardwood growth.
BOTH DICENTRAS,-15¢ each;3 for 35¢;10 for $1.00;100 for $9.

LILIUM CANDIDUM: The Madonna Lily,tall white spire in the late June garden,giving it odor and contrast with the prevailing bright colors.Usually obtained from abroad,it doesn't arrive here until October,shrivelled and dry.It must make green leafy growth before cold weather,if it is to flower.Try our Shelburne grown bulbs,ready to be sent out in July,firm and plump.Don't plant this Lily deeper than to cover the top of the bulb.Delivery whenever you say,after July 1st.
STRONG BULBS,6/9" circumference,35¢ each;10 for $3.00.

PRICES OF ALL PLANTS ON THIS PAGE APPLY ONLY TO ORDERS RECEIVED BEFORE SEPTEMBER FIRST,AFTER WHICH DATE THE REGULAR PRICES IN THE MASTER LIST WILL APPLY. POSTPAID,OF COURSE.

****

THE TRIAL BEDS.

Tucked away in a hidden corner of this Vermont farmplace,are several beds of plants not shown to the casual visitor.In them are plants of which we have but a limited supply,and prefer not to sell,even when more may be had.And there are plants too,that we like to think cannot be had at all,elsewhere,with others that may be had from but a few sources.To these beds we add regularly,and from them we move plants to the nursery beds,as soon as enough are available.Inevitably,not all the plants that grow in the Trial Beds,prove worthwhile.Occasionally,some will not increase and have to be discarded.We thought that some of you at a distance might like to know the story of some of these plants.

Perhaps at present,our collection of Lilies of the Valley are uppermost in our mind.The first pink form came to us from Pennsylvania;then one from Wisconsin.This spring another was added,which came by but one intermediate stop,from Europe.All have flowered this spring,and beyond any question are identical.If some of you have purchased pips of them under the various names we have given them,please be assured we did not deliberately mislead you,and that our disappointment is as great as yours.We had hoped that some of them might be a really bright pink.Perhaps you know of one that is,and if you do,will you let us know.And if you have a seed capsule on your pink Convallaria,will you send it to us,please.

A double form from Maryland,was really fine last year,and quite the tallest we have seen.This year,due to severe dividing it has not flowered.Fortin's Giant is much larger flowered than common strains.

Silene wherryi was moved to the trial beds last year.We were able to get but a few plants of it,and those were rapidly selling out to visitors.This pink Catchfly is so fine,that we are determined to get seed from it and grow a quantity.It's culture isn't difficult and it is much better than Silene pennsylvanica.

Campanula abietina was much admired last year,but was apparently biennial,for it disappeared immediately after flowering. We have many seedlings of it now.Close beside it,Anarrhinum crassifolium opened its tiny blue Snapdragon like flowers,and was quite the finest midsummer blue we had. It was moved to the nursery,but suffered in the moving,and is still very scarce.

Gaillardia President Hoover,of which we had received the last few plants available,so far as we know,had increased last summer to be respectable clumps.The winter proved too much for all of them,and until someone raises this bronzy self-colored Gaillardia again,from seed,it is gone.

THE TRIAL BEDS,-con.

Aster frikarti has had a place by itself across one of these beds,where it has wintered perfectly for two years,and the plants have yielded thousands of cuttings, so that now we have a fine lot of plants. This past winter,these three year old plants suffered somewhat,but are now regaining strenght.Well established plants on well drained soil,are hardy here.

A fine mat of Dryas sundermanni has provided us with some nice young plants in the nursery.Among the shrubby plants for the rockery,this holds first place with us.It is as fine as Aethionema Warley Rose,which also graduated from the Trial Beds some years ago.Nearby the Dryas are two clumps of a Phlox which we have identified as P.stolonifera,that came from a deserted roadside.The color is wine-red, (magenta to you),but it is so bright that those who have seen it are waiting impatiently for it to be available.

In another bed,Helonias bullata is preparing to flower,having over-wintered outside and prospered.Near it,the beds of Scopolendrium are quite empty.The common Harts-tongue Fern,we sold in good numbers while the crested forms of it that we have are in the greenhouse,divided and increasing nicely.This fern is hardy enough,but it had too much water in its location and some plants were dead.Those we sent out early may have been in bad shape too.If you had one that didn't grow,will you let us know.We shall have more available,later.

With spring but barely gone,we have our favorite Anemones and Violas on our mind. Anemone blanda rosea,bulbous,is hardy here and the flowers are quite pink.It is increasing nicely as is the fine blue Windflower,A.nemerosa robinsoniana.This year we have obtained a double form of the Windflower,and also a double form of the little yellow A.ranunculoides.We have had the single one for some time.Anemone albana a small edition in pale blue,of the Pasqueflower,is still with us,but a bed of seedlings of it,failed to survive the winter as did seedlings of the slaty-blue Anemone pulsatilla carpatica.

Our new Viola,of which we have hinted, is even better hidden,and increasing slowly. It won't upset the plant world,but we predict it will fill a space in it,and become well known.In due time,too,we shall have a few plants to spare of the extremely large self colored forms of Viola pedata that we have,one deep lavender,the other cream.

And in the newest section are a fine lot of the tiny yellow Iris arenaria-know it?-only two or three inches high. And nearby that,two choicest treasures, the double Bloodroot,and the White Bleeding Heart.--Oh no,not for a year or two!

BULBOUS PLANTS,FOR IMMEDIATE PLANTING.

LYCORIS SQUAMIGERA: The hardy Amaryllis has two charming uses. First,it may be planted in the open border,among plants of all sorts,where its leaves will appear in spring,and be unnoticed.In July or August,up will spring the flower stem,with its umbel of rosy-pink tubular flowers,two or three inches long,at the top of the two foot stem.Second,it may be planted in fairly dense shade,along with Hemerocallis or other plants and achieve the same charming effect.Don't forget,-the foliage dies away in July,before the flower stem appears.Hardy here.
LARGE BULBS THAT SHOULD FLOWER,-75¢ each,in July only.

SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS: Bloodroot,carpets many a stony hillside hereabout,where the broken limestone lies so thickly that it seems the plants can find no soil.It loves to snuggle under a small stone for summer coolness,with its roots in soil.But we grow it in the cultivated fields,easily.Summer shade helps keep the soil cool,however,farther south. 3 for 50¢;10 for $1.25.

TRILLIUM ERECTUM: Purple Trillium or Wake-Robin.The first to blossom,a deep purple red flower,carried erect.Of easy culture.
TRILLIUM GRANDIFLORUM: The white Trillium of northern woods, the finest of the family.The flowers turn deep rose as they age.Fine in shade,but may be grown under other plants in the open border.Can be supplied in any quantity.
TRILLIUM STYLOSUM: This southern form is white,stained with rose.It is perfectly hardy here,and grows readily.
TRILLIUM UNDULATUM: Painted Trillium.Found only in deep cool woodland,usually at a considerable elevation,tho it grows readily here.White,with a deep red-purple blotch in the throat.In light soils it is often four or five inches deep.
ALL TRILLIUM ARE,-3 for 50¢;10 for $1.25;100 for $10.00.

NATIVE PLANTS,FOR SUMMER PLANTING.

IRIS CRISTATA: This little Iris,with its creeping roots,is an ideal plant for carpeting steep banks,or even to use under eaves,as it holds and covers the soil.Pale blue flowers
IRIS CRISTATA ALBA.The white form of the preceding.Both should be planted in July to take advantage of the summer growth/
EITHER SORT,-25¢ each;10 for $2.00;100 for $18.00.

JEFFERSONIA DIPHYLLA: A woodland plant of the Barberry family. Commonly known as Twin-Leaf,as the round leaf is divided into two kidney shaped parts.A plant makes a neatly formed clump and the white flowers,an inch across,are carried above the foliage in good numbers,during May. 25¢ each;10 for $2.00.

VIOLA PEDATA: This form as we have it has flowers that are in two shades of blue.It is distinct from the following two.
VIOLA PEDATA BICOLOR: In this form,by botanists called the true species,the upper two petals are rich dark violet,and the lower three,pale lilac.
VIOLA PEDATA LINEARILOBA: In this form,the entire flower is lilac purple.It was in flower along a Connecticut roadside,in May.Like the others,it prefers an acid,sandy soil.
ALL VIOLA PEDATA,DURING JULY-AUGUST,25¢ each;10 for $1.50.

CYPRIPEDIUM ACAULE:-The Ladyslippers may be planted during the summer months,or in September.However,to induce you to order early,we offer these at this time,as they are dug in these months.This is the pink Mocassin Flower,of sour sandy soils,and sphagnum bogs.
CYPRIPEDIUM PARVIFLORUM: The smaller yellow Ladyslipper,grows in damp bogs,but is at home in good garden loam.
CYPRIPEDIUM PUBESCENS: The larger yellow Ladyslipper likes a somewhat dryer spot than its small cousin.
CYPRIPEDIUM SPECTABILE: This is the queen of all native Orchids and one of the most beautiful woodland flowers.We have been able to grow it readily in slightly moist soil,without shade but it is better for some protection against summer sun.
ALL CYPRIPEDIUM,25¢ per strong bud;10 for $2.00;100 for $18.00.

TRY TO FIND THESE ELSEWHERE!

ANEMONE BLANDA ROSEA: This little gem grows from a tiny hard root,the leaf stem only a few inches high,the leaves much divided.The flower is nearly an inch across,and in this form is rosy pink.It is of easy culture in light loam,fairly dry and partly shady.Only a few at 50¢ each.

ANEMONE NEMEROSA ROBINSONIANA: A blue flowered form of the Windflower,with the usual spreading rootstalks,so that if left alone,it makes a matted clump,covered with deep blue flowers in May.Perfectly hardy.Fine for the edge of the wild garden.50¢

IRIS ARENARIA: Hortus says this is properly I.flavissima,but we had it under the other name,and hate to change.It grows only about 3" high with us,quickly makes a nice little clump, and produces a startling large yellow flower,in a clump of three,over a long period in May.It is wild from Hungary to Mongolia.Entirely distinct from I.pumila and I.cristata.A gem in the rockery,or as a garden edging.50¢ each;10 for $4.00

PRIMULA JULIAE: These Primroses are hardier than the older Polyanthus,which they much resemble,and particularly,they with stand hot weather better.Plant them now,for they make growth in late summer and fall,and are then at their best,in spring.
P.CRISPA,-Bright burgundy red. 25¢ each;10 for $2.00
P.EARLY RED,-Very early,the flowers deep in the foliage.25¢
P.HELEN MULLER,-Purple-blue.25¢ each;10 for $2.00
P.ICOMB VARIETY,-Rich rose.25¢ each,10 for $2.00
P.KINLOUGH BEAUTY.Salmon pink,to rose. 50¢ each
P.MRS.KING,-Mauve pink,large individual flowers.25¢ each;10-$2.
P.MRS.MCGILLIVRAY,-Large,old rose.25¢ each;10 for $2.00
P.PAM,-Maroon-red. 25¢ each;10 for $2.00
P.PRIMROSE LODGE,-Deep red,good stems.A fine form.25¢ each;10-$2.
P.SCHNEEKISSEN,-White.50¢ each.
P.WANDA.Almost violet.25¢ each;10 for $2.00.

PHLOX SUBULATA: Commonly called Moss Pinks,these creeping Phlox give a tremendous splash of color in the early garden,and are used for edgings,for the rockery,for beds to cover summer bulbs and for naturalising.We have a lot of fine forms,and offer them for July and August delivery.Plant them now,to have them at their best next spring. 25¢ each;10 for $2.00,except as noted.
P.ALBA,-Pure white
P.APPLE BLOSSOM,-White fading to palest pink.
P.AUTUMN ROSE,-Like the common Moss Pink,but flowers in fall.
P.BRILLIANT,-The deepest rose form,we have.
P.CAMLAENSIS,-Salmon pink.35¢ each.
P.EMERALD CUSHION,-Fine compact dark green growth,rosy flowers.
P.FAIRY,-Pale blue,with dark purple eye.
P.FRONDOSA,-Lavender cast,the edges of flowers incised.
P.G.F.WILSON,-By far the finest lavender or blue shade.
P.JERSEY BLUSH,-Much like Appleblossom.
P.LILACINA,-The first lavender form.Still very good.
P.MOERHEIMI,-Soft rose,with a darker center.
P.NELSONI,-Pale lilac-blue,star-like flowers.
P.NEWERY SEEDLING,-A strong growing lavender.
P.ROSEA.The common Moss Pink.
P.VIVID,-Warm salmon rose(or bright pink,as you choose).The finest form of all,which does well here.

TROLLIUS HYBRIDS.

We urge you to consider planting the Globe Flowers,now. For July and August only,we offer strong one year old plants of all sorts in the Master List,at 25¢ each,and five separate sorts(your choice) for $1.00.This is a real bargain,for each plant will be correctly labelled.Take advantage of this offer and become acquaninted with these named Trollius.

THE MANAGER'S DESK.

Rambling about among nurserymen everywhere is an odd character called Charlie Chestnut.Actually,Charlie is a brown paper covered booklet,detailing the adventures of a nursery hand,and his 'boss' Emil. Written by someone with a shrewd insight of the character of nurserymen and their helpers,and too,with a very good knowledge of many of the practices followed in nurseries of all sorts,it is in effect a chance to see ourselves with other eyes. Perhaps it is as well that the booklet is not too generally circulated,for the casual reader might form a poor opinion of us.

According to Charlie,whenever Emil has a communication to entrust to the mail he "sent him a postcard",Many of you will recall that you have received those short 'postcard' length letters.The truth is that during the season when your gardening problems are uppermost in your minds,and you write for information,we too are busy and since a brief letter is better than none at all,you should be thankful to get that.Then,when the rush is over,you forget us until fall,and sometimes we have to use postals.As Charlie says it,'Emil hadn't paid the printers bill,trying to get the Barberry hoed'.

During the summer months we can answer your letters,and we appreciate greatly the orders we receive at that time.Why not help us to help you by writing us now and making plans for that garden you want next year.

But the thing that becomes most strongly evident as we read Charlie's word pictures of ourselves,and others whom we know,is the fact that we are very human beings.We have to chuckle over Emil's sharp dealings with his fellow nurserymen,and we sympathize with him when something on which he has counted,fails to work out.And particularly can we sympathize with him when he goes out the back door and leaves Charlie to interview the irate customer he has seen coming in the front one,with an evident grievance.Did you ever stop to think that in almost every other material sold,a finished product is sold.We deliver you but the start of the finished product.Much of the rest is your problem.We try to send out the best possible material.We fail,as do others.If we can know of it,we'll do our utmost to correct our mistakes.You have only to let us know,-in a friendly way.